The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER #12 OF 2013

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of all deaths in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, one person completes suicide every 14.2 minutes; and

WHEREAS, there has been an overall increase in the suicide rate in our country with the rate highest for adults 75 years of age and older; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the third leading cause of death for those aged 15-24 in Pennsylvania; third among males, second among females; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 4.73 million people in the United States are survivors of suicide (those who have lost a loved one to suicide); and

WHEREAS, the stigma associated with mental illness and suicide works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk for suicide from seeking life-saving help and further traumatizes survivors of suicide; and

WHEREAS, local and statewide suicide prevention efforts should be developed and encouraged to the maximum extent possible; and

WHEREAS, a great many suicides are preventable;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Commissioners hereby designate September 10th as "Suicide Prevention and Awareness Day" and the week around it as "Suicide Prevention Week", that week being September 8th through September 14th, 2013, and ask the Citizens of Centre County to spread the word that that suicide is a preventable public health problem.

ADOPTED this 3rd day of September, 2013.

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steven G. Derenem, Chairman

C. Chris Exarchos

Michael Pipe

ATTEST:

Timothy T. Boyde, Director Administrative Services